

8EHQ-0403-15298



ATOFINA Chemicals, Inc.

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MR # 266158

April 21, 2003

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Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460



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Attn: Section 8(e) Coordinator

Dear Sir/Madam:

ATOFINA Chemicals, Inc (ATOFINA), on behalf of the 2-Mercaptoethanol Consortium, is submitting additional results from a repeat dose/reproductive/developmental toxicity screening study (OECD 422) in rats to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 8(e) (original letter submitted on March 10, 2003; 8EHQ-03-15298). The members of the 2-Mercaptoethanol Consortium are ATOFINA, Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP, and BASF AG. These data provide information on 2-mercaptoethanol (CAS# 60-24-2). This study does not involve effects in humans.

Nothing in this letter is considered confidential business information of the 2-Mercaptoethanol Consortium.

In this study, 2-mercaptoethanol (15, 50 and 75 mg/kg/day) was administered by oral gavage to male (5 weeks prior to mating and during mating) and female (5 week prior to and during mating, as well as, during pregnancy and lactation) Sprague Dawley rats. The data described were received as a preliminary study synopsis prepared by the laboratory

Parental animals:

- Statistically significant increase in the duration of gestation at the high dose (75 mg/kg group)
- Statistically significant increase in absolute but not relative weight of the epididymis (l) at the mid (50 mg/kg) and high dose (75 mg/kg).
- Statistically significant decrease in absolute and relative prostate weight at the high dose (75 mg/kg)
- Statistically significant decrease in absolute but not relative seminal vesicle weights at the high dose (75 mg/kg)

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- Statistically significant increased liver weight in males accompanied by changes in liver enzymes at the high dose (75 mg/kg).

Pups:

- Statistically significant reduced number of pups at the high dose (75 mg/kg)
- Statistically significant reduced pup survival (day 21 post partum) at the high dose (75 mg/kg)

Additional information including the biological relevance of these findings will be submitted once the final report is obtained.

Further questions regarding this submission may be directed to me at (215) 419-5890.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Randall". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Debra" and last name "Randall" clearly distinguishable.

Debra Randall, D.A.B.T.
Product Safety